

HONORING PHYLLIS MARINO FOR  
HER INVALUABLE CONTRIBU-  
TIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to pay tribute to my dear friend, Phyllis Marino, as she is honored by the Connecticut Democratic State Central Committee with one of their 2011 Women's Leadership Awards. Phyllis has been a mainstay of the New Haven political arena for as long as I can remember and today her many contributions will be recognized with this very special award.

Each year, in the spirit of the late Governor Ella Grasso, the Democratic State Central Committee selects ten women whose extraordinary leadership and contributions have made a difference in their communities. The annual Women's Leadership Awards celebrate the innumerable ways in which women, through their work in the political arena, have helped to shape our communities.

The letter nominating Phyllis for consideration said it best—"In life, never mind in politics, you meet very few people who do what they do every day because they believe in a cause and not to benefit themselves—a person who truly gives of themselves with no expectation in return. She is also a person of conviction . . . and her word is her bond no matter what the consequences." I could not describe Phyllis better than that.

Her involvement in the New Haven community came at a very young age. Like so many of us, Phyllis learned the value of community service at the feet of her parents. She stuffed envelopes, campaigned door-to-door, and made thousands of phone calls on behalf of candidates and issues. As a young adult, she was charged with managing headquarters and political operations throughout the city. Phyllis earned the most distinguished of reputations and for many years she has been the one that newcomers turn to when they want to get involved. She has guided countless young people to success and has served as an inspiration to them all.

Her history with city of New Haven, its residents, and the many changes they have witnessed over the years makes Phyllis an invaluable resource to anyone who wants to get involved in New Haven's political arena. I would be remiss if I did not extend a personal note of thanks to Phyllis. I have known Phyllis most of my life—our fathers were good friends and worked together in the community. Phyllis has long been one that I can always count on for support and encouragement. People often invoke the phrase "I stand on the shoulders of giants"—for me one of those giants is Phyllis Marino.

I am proud to join her son and daughter-in-law, Pat and Pam; her daughter, Andrea; grandson, Gennaro; and all of those who have gathered today to congratulate Phyllis Marino as she receives this well-deserved recognition.

IN HONOR OF DR. SUSAN S.  
GORDON

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Susan S. Gordon has, for more than 50 years, lived and has been active in Pomona where she and her husband, Dr. Edmund W. Gordon, raised four children and where she was active in her school district, her community and as a pediatrician.

She graduated from the Howard University College of Medicine and is a Licentiate of the American Board of Pediatrics and a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics. She was also named an Associate Professor of Pediatrics, initially at New York Medical College and then at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons. From 1978 to 1981 she was a member of the National Panel on the Measurement of the Program Effects of Head Start.

For eight years she served on the Board of Education of the East Ramapo Central School District, where, for three years, she was also president. She also served, for 20 years, on the board of the Lexington School for the Deaf where the Health Center was named in her honor. She added to her humane service resume by travelling to West Africa for four summers to train workers in providing educational and health services and in Nicaragua she trained local people in family planning and child health maintenance.

Both she and her husband are in the Rockland County Hall of Fame. Dr. Gordon is being honored by the Howard University Alumni Association for their life's work and outstanding contributions to society. I join with HUAA in honoring Dr. Gordon for her outstanding record of accomplishment, in Rockland and Westchester and throughout the world.

IN CELEBRATION OF JOHN J.  
AREIAS' 90TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 90th birthday of Mr. John J. Areias, a respected leader, distinguished dairyman, and wonderful father, grandfather, and friend. His contributions to our community have been immeasurable and have made the San Joaquin Valley a better place to live.

John J. Areias was born on April 27, 1921 to Jesse Areias and Genevieve Silva Areias, who emigrated to the United States from Portugal's Azore Islands. John, his parents, and eight siblings settled in Volta, California, where they operated a small dairy. A proud product of the Central Valley, John graduated from Volta Elementary School as the valedictorian and then Los Banos High School, where he was a part of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) and served as Senior Class President.

As a young man, John's passion for agriculture was evident. In high school, he traveled with the FFA to the International World Fair in Treasure Island and to the California

State Fair to show cattle. It was also at this time that he met the love of his life, Mary, whom he later married. One of John's fondest memories is driving his future bride around in his 1939 Plymouth Deluxe Rumble Seat Convertible.

Soon thereafter, John and Jess, his brother, went into the dairy business. Their pioneering spirit made them innovators in the dairy industry; their dairy was the first Grade A dairy in the Los Banos Dairymen's Association. Eventually, John and Jess became the operators of one of the largest dairies in California, shipping approximately 150 cans of milk every day. Despite their massive success, their dairy operation remained a family business at heart—their children would often ride along in the milk truck during deliveries. John's success allowed him the opportunity to operate ranches throughout the west side of Merced County, California, which included 6,000 acres of land and 4,500 head of cattle.

Through all of his professional endeavors, John has found time to serve his community. A devout Catholic, he served as Grand Knight for the Knights of Columbus. In addition, he was active in the Portuguese Fraternal Order. His consistent involvement in our community makes him an invaluable asset to the people of the Central Valley.

John's wife, Mary passed away in 1980 after a brave battle with cancer. Together they have four wonderful children: Marcia, Lucia, Kathleen, and Rusty, all of who have accomplished great things. John is also the proud grandfather to Evan, Nina, Bianca, Alexis, and Austin.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank John for his wonderful contributions to our Valley. His commitment to family, community leadership, and hard work is admirable and makes him a role model for our entire community. I join the rest of John's family and friends in wishing him a blessed 90th birthday and continued health and happiness in years to come.

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM GONZALEZ

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 24, 2011*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, Social Security is such an integral part of so many lives in our communities that it is with some sadness that I congratulate William Gonzalez, the Operations Supervisor of the West Nyack office on his retirement after 35 years of exemplary service.

He has faithfully served the people in my district for those years, starting as a Claims Development Clerk in the Baychester district office in the Bronx. After a short time, he rose to Claims Representative. He later served as a Field Representative and became an Operations Supervisor in 1989. He was reassigned to the West Nyack, NY district office in 1996 and established himself, over many years, as a liaison for a number of community and social agencies such as the Department of Social Services, Housing and Urban Development and as a contact for law enforcement in Rockland County.

He received many performance awards throughout his career including recognition for his pivotal role in the Region's Bi-Lingual Interviewing Skills Training initiative and for his